



Town of Sudbury

Rail Trails Advisory Committee

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MINUTES

November 2, 2023 AT 4:30PM

Site Visit of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 3

Please Note: There were no deliberations at this meeting.

Members Present: John Drobinski, Glenn Pransky, Kenneth Holtz, and Laurie Eliason

Others Present: Marcia Rasmussen, Planning & Community Development Department, Janie Dretler, Select Board Member

We noted that two areas South East and South West of the Diamond owned by Chiswick Park could be good locations for a park and parking.

The current Route 20 crossing plan at Nobscot was reviewed (Fuss & O'Neill dated 10/3/23). Adequate signage will be important.

We would like to better understand of the current parking lot design on Nobscot, Road, and whether more than 13 spaces could be included.

1650 feet South of Route 20, there is a culvert that will likely need replacing. This may also be an excellent location for a bird viewing platform as an elevated walkway over the wetlands to the east of the trail. A bench here will ensure a bench more than every ½ mile, (including the benches proposed at the Diamond, Route 20, 2300 feet South of Route 20 and about 1300 feet North of the Framingham town line) consistent with our plan on Phase 2D.

Historical items:

At about 1900 feet South of Route 20 is a granite mile marker that should be painted with the correct mileage markings.

At 4500 feet South of Route 20 is a block signal tower and switchbox that could be rehabbed, but would require considerable work – it is in bad shape.

At 5000 feet South of Route 20, is a cattle crossing in excellent shape. The slope of the embankment is steep so some modification within the ROW, and a break in the fence will be needed to allow access.

Geologic interest –

An excellent example of a glacial erratic is at about 4300 feet South of Route 20, on the west side. There is an esker on the west side at the mile marker 1900 feet South of Route 20.

Trail connections:

There are several footpaths on Town land that intersect the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT), that seem to be regularly used – two about 1000 feet South of Route 20 and another one heading east, about 50 feet North of the cattle crossing.